

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 28 NOV 2005

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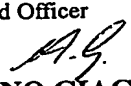
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Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>JMC:EP:CL:FP20749</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. <b>PCT/AU2004/001695</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>2 December 2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>5 December 2003</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> B65D 73/00, 75/38, 85/18, B65B 11/48, 25/20, A41D 19/00</b>		
Applicant <b>INTERNATIONAL GROCERY MANUFACTURER PTY LTD et al</b>		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
  - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 4 sheets, as follows:
    - ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
    - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
  - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I | Basis of the report   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II           | Priority  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III          | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV           | Lack of unity of invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI           | Certain documents cited   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII          | Certain defects in the international application  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII         | Certain observations on the international application   |

Date of submission of the demand <b>31 May 2005</b>	Date of completion of the report <b>15 November 2005</b>
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU <b>AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929</b>	Authorized Officer  <b>ADRIANO GIACOBETTI</b> Telephone No. (02) 6283 2579

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.  
PCT/AU2004/001695

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1 (b))

☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)

☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-21 as originally filed/furnished

pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☒ the claims:

pages as originally filed/furnished

pages\* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages\* 22-25 received by this Authority on 31 May 2005 with the letter of 30 May 2005

pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☒ the drawings:

pages 1/12-12/12 as originally filed/furnished

pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

pages\* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages

☐ the claims, Nos.

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):

☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages

☐ the claims, Nos.

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):

☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001695

**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-20	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-20	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-20	YES
	Claims	NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Cited Prior Art Documents

D1: GB 1594466 A (ARBROOK, INC.) 30 JULY 1981

D2: US 3384225 A (NYE) 21 May 1968

D3: CA 640991 A (THE SEAMLESS RUBBER COMPANY) 8 May 1962

D4: US Des. 297617 A (SILVERMAN) 13 September 1988

D5: US 5620098 A (BOOS et al.) 15 April 1997

NOVELTY(N) AND INVENTIVE STEP(IS): Claims 1-20 (YES)

None of the above documents, taken individually or in obvious combination, disclose all the features of invention as now defined in independent claims 1 and 19. In particular none of the documents disclose a package comprising a shrinkable cover member which can be used to substantially envelope the arrangement of a compression member, an item and a supporting member, and wherein the cover member thereafter being shrunk in size to compress the item within the compression member and support member thereby reducing the size of the package and item. Therefore the invention of claims 1 and 19, as well as appended claims 2 to 18 and 20; is considered to be novel and involve an inventive step. The invention also has a industrial applicability.

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CLAIMS:

1. A package for at least one item, comprising:  
a support member upon which the item can be  
5 located;  
at least one compression member moveably  
connected or attached to the support member, said  
compression member being located over the item and being  
moveable so as to be capable of compressing the item when  
10 located substantially on the support or support member; and  
a shrinkable cover member substantially  
enveloping the arrangement of the compression member, item  
and supporting member,  
wherein the cover member is shrunk in size  
15 thereby moving the compression member towards the support  
member so as to compress the item inside the package  
thereby forming a package in which the size of the item  
and/or package containing the item is reduced.
- 20 2. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which the cover member is a  
flexible cover made from a shrinkable film, sheet, membrane  
or other flexible planar element which can shrink from a  
first size to a second size.
- 25 3. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which the cover member is a  
shrink wrap film, sheet or covering.
- 30 4. A package for at least one item according to  
claim 3, in which the shrink wrap film, sheet or covering  
is shrunk through the application of heat.
5. A package for at least one item according to any  
35 one of the preceding claims, in which the support member is  
a blank having a planar central portion or panel for  
supporting the item.

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6. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which each compression  
member is attached to part of a lateral side of the support  
5 member.

7. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which each compression  
member is hingedly connected to the support member.  
10

8. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which the support member  
and compression members are provide with complementary  
fastening elements which are releasably securable with one  
15 another.

9. A package for at least one item according to  
claim 8, in which the complementary fastening elements  
comprise a tab which can be releasably secured within a  
20 slot.

10. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which the cover completely  
envelops the arrangement of the item, supporting member and  
25 compression member forming a sealed package.

11. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which the cover member is  
substantially transparent.  
30

12. A package for at least one item according to any  
one of the preceding claims, in which the item is provided  
with cavities, pockets, folds or similar in which air can  
accumulate or be trapped to resist compression of the item  
35 during packaging.

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13. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the item are made from flexible material.
- 5 14. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the item are gloves.
- 10 15. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the front or rear sides or faces or both faces or sides of the support member are provided with printing.
- 15 16. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support member also has an attachment means for attaching the package to a hook or display means.
- 20 17. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support or support member is provided with a display portion over which the compression member is not folded or superposed allowing the item within the package to be visible at the point of sale when the cover member is in place.
- 25 18. A package for at least one item according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the support member of the present invention is made from cardboard or similar paper or cardboard products.
- 30 19. A method of packaging at least one item, comprising the steps of:
- 35 placing at least one of the items between a supporting or support member and at least one compression member, the compression member being moveably connected or attached to the support member;
- substantially enveloping the arrangement of the item, supporting member and compression member with a

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shrinkable cover member; and

causing the cover member to shrink in size so as to move the compression member towards the support member so as to compress the item inside the package,

5           thereby forming a package in which the cover member compresses the item between the compression member and the support member thereby reducing the size of the item and/or package containing the item.

10   20.           A method of packaging at least one item according to claim 19, using a package for at least one item according to any one of claims 1 to 18.